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The Director of Central Intelligence

DDI- 3824-83/1

Washington, D. C. 20505

01 JUN 1983

Honorable Charles Z. Wick
Director
United States Information Agency
Washington, D. C. 20547

Dear Charlie,

Thank you for your letter of 13 May on your briefing at CINCPAC. I especially appreciate your enclosing copies of your correspondence with Secretary Weinberger and Judge Clark on the same subject.

I share your belief that photographs of the type you describe can be effective tools for informing the public of the Soviet and Vietnamese threat to the Pacific area. It is one of the frustrations of the intelligence profession, however, that access to information from a spectrum of sensitive intelligence sources must be severely restricted to protect those sources. Our ability to keep the policymaker informed, enhanced by these sources, more than compensates for the constraint.

I have carefully reviewed the matter of Admiral Long's Vietnam briefing and find that the materials used were derived from a sensitive intelligence source. Public release of these materials could result in serious compromise to the source itself. As you know, I am responsible for the protection of intelligence sources and methods; and the source of the briefing in question is, in my view, among our most sensitive. Meanwhile, please be assured that the appropriate intelligence information is shared with the leadership of our allies as well as with Third World leaders after precautionary measures are taken to protect the source.

Sincerely,

/s/ William J. Casey

William J. Casey

A circular stamp with the text "DCI EXEC REG" inside.